

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 TOKYO 08209 081051Z
ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11
/066 W
-----041261 081308Z /75

R 081039Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO
TO USICA WASHDC
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 7716
CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE TOKYO 08209

USICA

USICA FOR EA/MORT SMITH, CINCPAC FOR USICA ADVISOR

E.O. 11652: N/A
SUBJECT: MEDIA ASSESSMENT: WRAP-UP OF COMMENTARY ON
CARTER-FUKUDA SUMMIT MEETING

1. SUMMARY: PRIME MINISTER'S WASHINGTON VISIT PROVOKED
EXTENSIVE BUT GENERALLY UNENTHUSIASTIC PRESS COMMENTARY.
BREVITY OF MEETING PLUS LACK OF JOINT COMMUNIQUE WERE
INTERPRETED AS INDICATING ABSENCE OF URGENT ISSUES
REQUIRING RESOLUTION. ON OTHER HAND, PRESIDENT'S RE-
AFFIRMATION OF ACTIVE ASIAN ROLE WAS BROADLY AND FAVORABLY
NOTED. END SUMMARY.

2. MAJOR VALUE OF SUMMIT CITED BY EDITORIALS AND
COMMENTATORS WAS OPPORTUNITY FOR TWO LEADERS TO GET
TOGETHER TO DISCUSS BILATERAL AND WORLDWIDE ECONOMIC AND
OTHER ISSUES AND TO MAINTAIN PERSONAL TIES. FUKUDA
REPORTED AS PERSONALLY PLEASED THAT ALL WENT SMOOTHLY,
THUS ENHANCING HIS DOMESTIC STATURE IN ADVANCE OF WHAT
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 TOKYO 08209 081051Z

PRESS ASSUMES WILL BE PERIOD OF POLITICAL INFIGHTING.
HIS DOMESTIC OPPONENTS, PREDICTABLY, FAULTED HIM FOR
PUSHING TOO HARD FOR MEETING FOR WHICH NO ONE BUT HE SAW
ANY REAL NEED. CONSIDERABLE COMMENTARY FOCUSSED ON FACT
THAT PRESIDENT LEFT ON DOMESTIC POLITICAL TRIP IMMEDIATELY
ON COMPLETION OF SUMMIT, WITH CONCLUSION THUS DRAWN THAT
U.S. DID NOT ATTACH GREAT IMPORTANCE TO MEETING.

3. IN EDITORIAL TITLED "LITTLE FRUIT FROM U.S.-JAPAN SUMMIT" ASAHI DESCRIBED IT AS MERELY A RECONFIRMATION OF PRINCIPLES ALREADY UNDERSTOOD AND AGREED UPON. MORE CHARITABLY, NIHON KEIZAI ALLOWED THAT CONFERENCE COULD BE CALLED SUCCESS THOUGH NO CONCRETE RESULTS CAME OUT OF IT, NOR COULD ANY HAVE BEEN EXPECTED WITH BOTH LEADERS PRIMARILY PREOCCUPIED WITH DOMESTIC MATTERS.

4. NHK COMMENTATOR KIMURA SAID U.S. SIDE INDICATED APPRECIATION OF JAPAN'S CURRENT EFFORTS TO REDUCE TRADE SURPLUS AND OPINED THAT WITHOUT U.S. UNDERSTANDING OF ITS POSITION, JAPAN WOULD FIND ITSELF IN ISOLATED AND DIFFICULT POSITION IN FORTHCOMING BONN MEETING IN JULY. HE SAID ON OTHER HAND, U.S. "UNDERSTANDING" ALSO IMPLIED AN UNSTATED "TIME LIMIT" AFTER WHICH JAPAN COULD EXPECT GREATER PRESSURE FROM U.S. AND OTHER TRADING PARTNERS IF SHE SHOULD FAIL TO REDRESS TRADE IMBALANCE. TBS-TV COMMENTATOR SUZUKI WAS MORE CRITICAL, DESCRIBING SUMMIT AS TOO GENERAL, ADDING THAT IT TENDED TO HIGHLIGHT FACT THAT THERE IS STILL A LARGE GAP IN THINKING BETWEEN U.S. AND JAPANESE SIDES ON KEY ISSUES. COMMENTARY POINTED OUT MEETING WAS TOO SHORT AND NO CONCRETE RESULTS COULD HAVE BEEN EXPECTED. ON "VIEWPOINT" NHK CHIEF COMMENTATOR OGATA SAID THERE WERE DIFFERENCES IN UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN U.S. AND JAPAN THAT WERE NOT EVEN TOUCHED ON AT SUMMIT.
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 TOKYO 08209 081051Z

5. COMMENT: IN OUR VIEW, MAJOR POSITIVE IMPACT OF SUMMIT ON JAPANESE PUBLIC WAS WIDE COVERAGE GIVEN PRESIDENT'S REAFFIRMATION THAT U.S. WOULD REMAIN ACTIVE IN ASIA. WHILE FUKUDA'S CRITICS MIGHT FAULT HIM FOR HIS SUMMIT TIMING AND MAY ASSERT LITTLE OF SUBSTANCE WAS ACCOMPLISHED, REITERATION AT SUMMIT LEVEL THAT U.S. NOT WITHDRAWING FROM ASIA CAME AT TIME WHEN THIS IS RECURRING JAPANESE MEDIA THEME. FORSTER

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, SUMMIT MEETINGS, VISITS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 08 may 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978TOKYO08209
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780197-0402
Format: TEL
From: TOKYO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780581/aaaacqwj.tel
Line Count: 103
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 8fa72aa2-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2757214
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MEDIA ASSESSMENT: WRAP-UP OF COMMENTARY ON CARTER-FUKUDA SUMMIT MEETING
TAGS: SOPN, OVIP, US, JA, (FUKUDA, TAKEO), (CARTER, JIMMY)
To: ICA
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/8fa72aa2-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014